

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-37 are pending, but claims 9-37 have been withdrawn, so only claims 1-8 are being examined. All of claims 1-8 have been rejected. In this Reply, Applicants are cancelling claims 9-37, amending claims 1-8, and adding claims 38-41. Since the total number of claims is still less than twenty, with fewer than three independent claims, Applicants do not believe that the addition of the new claims requires the payment of any additional fees.

Applicants have marked the claims to show the changes to the immediate prior version of the claims, which is the version filed with the Application on September 25, 2003. Applicants apologize for their previous submission of a non-compliant amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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